

QUEENSWAY SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents/Guardians.

It has been busy weeks since the school year began, and I am heartened that our students are managing themselves well. In this letter, I want to share some outcomes of programmes in our school and also highlight how you might more effectively play your role as parents/guardians.

GCE "O" Level Examinations 2022

Following the results of our 2022 cohort in January, we have since received more data that allows us to review how the cohort has performed. I had previously shared that our 2022 cohort had produced the best "O" Level results over the past 10 years. I am delighted to share with you that our 2022 cohort has topped that, making them the cohort that has produced the best results in the last 12 years. While we congratulate our students and their parents, I also want to affirm the good work of our teachers in QSS. The outcomes of each cohort in the National Examinations is not just the work of the teachers who taught them in the graduating year, but the combined efforts of the teachers who taught them since they were in Sec 1. These students not only leave with good results to progress to their next stage of learning, but they also bring with them the dispositions, attitudes and skills that were imbued in them through their CCAs, camps and the array of activities they participated in.

The current cohorts can take heart that processes and programmes are in place to help each of our current students develop to be the best they can be, and already have started off on good footings.

National Schools Games - Volleyball

I am proud to share that both our Girls and Boys Volleyball B Division teams qualified for their respective Finals in succeeding years. We were up against Fairfield Methodist School (Secondary) in a "first" South Zone Finals for both Boys and Girls to be played at the same venue. There was much excitement and our supporters, including some alumni from the earlier batches, were there to cheer our students on.

Our Glrls had a nervous start but kept their focus, seeking to show their mettle. Though they played with determination, they lost their first match. Undaunted by this loss, they regrouped and displayed great finesse by winning the 2nd set. It was now not only about teamwork and communication within the team but also physical strength and mental fortitude. The 3rd set was a cliff-hanger, with both teams taking turns to lead, then it came to the crucial last few points. I was heartened that our girls held their focus and with sheer determination, clinched the winning point. They were delighted to win and, in the process, defended the title our school held.

Next up were our boys. They had a difficult semi-final, having to come from a set down to win their place in the finals, and were hoping to do as well as their female counterparts. The 1st set was everything it promised to be, with both sides taking turns to go into the lead, however, our opponents were able to get the better of us and won their 1st set. Our boys came out with determination to level the score, and the exchanges in the 2nd set looked like it was going to be an even contest, as the trading of points were generally equal. However, in a sudden moment of loss of concentration, our opponents quickly gained the better of us and raced ahead, securing a commanding lead. The gap

was too wide though our boys continued to try their best to close the gap. I must commend them for their determination.

I congratulate both our Girls and Boys teams for their fine effort, with the Boys finishing Runners-Up in the South Zone Boys Volleyball Championships and the Girls finishing Champions in the South Zone Girls' Volleyball B Division Championships and in the process retaining their title. Also, both teams now qualify for the National Schools Volleyball Championships.

National Schools Games - Football

Yet another game that we are hoping to do well in. Our Football Boys team began their campaign in January and while they managed to win 2 games and were held to a draw, their crucial match was their last in the preliminary rounds. They played with great determination and were up 2-1 against Pasir Ris Secondary School. At last, they allowed their opponents to score against them and will now be competing in Division 2 of the 5 Divisions competition. We wish them well in the next stage of their competitions.

Our Girls have played with confidence and have successfully qualified for the semi-finals to be played possibly on Tuesday at the Jalan Besar Stadium. They have done well in all the matches played, growing with confidence in each successive match played. We wish them well in their next 2 matches. They have already done themselves and our school proud.

Conclusion

Education is much more than academic achievements. While it is important for certification and moving onto the next stage of learning, education is about developing the whole personhood of a student, and in QSS, nurturing each of our students to be the young lady and gentleman we hope each one would be. Our desire is to ground them in our school values of Discipline, Respect, Responsibility and Excellence, that in what they do, they are guided by these values in their actions, behaviour and conversations. If your child/ward lives according to values that would make him/her a person that society would value, he/she will certainly be successful in life.

In QSS, we also emphasize that values are realised through Actions, Behaviours and Conversations, or simply the A-B-C in our daily living. If they can be mindful of the values that are espoused, they are more likely to be doing the right thing in life. Consider these for your family. Use these as reminders of how they can choose to be both in school and at home. You might want to do what we are doing in school known as "Catch You Doing it GREAT!". This is where we identify students, both by teachers and students, to identify students who practise our values through the A-B-C! The constant reinforcement of what is right helps our children to focus on the right things to do.

As I often remind all our students, Diligence, is a quality and attitude that we choose to have. It is not giving up, but trying to achieve one's goal, improving on the approach and methods, but ultimately to not give up. That is our reminder each time we look at our motto – that if we do not give up, persevere and be diligent, we will find "Success through Diligence"!

Yours sincerely,

Peter Tan Chong Tze

Principal